

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

JOSE RODRIGUEZ,

Plaintiff,

-against-

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, et al.,

Defendants.

1:21-CV-4300 (LTS)

ORDER DIRECTING PRISONER  
AUTHORIZATION

LAURA TAYLOR SWAIN, Chief United States District Judge:

Plaintiff, currently held in the Essex County Correctional Facility, in Newark, New Jersey, brings this action *pro se*. To proceed with a civil action in this court, a prisoner must either pay \$402.00 in fees – a \$350.00 filing fee plus a \$52.00 administrative fee – or, to request permission to proceed without prepayment of fees, submit a signed *in forma pauperis* (“IFP”) application and a prisoner authorization. *See* 28 U.S.C. §§ 1914, 1915. If the court grants a prisoner’s IFP application, the Prison Litigation Reform Act requires the court to collect the \$350.00 filing fee in installments deducted from the prisoner’s prison trust fund account. *See* § 1915(b)(1). A prisoner seeking to proceed in this court without prepayment of fees must therefore also authorize the court to withdraw these payments from his prison trust fund account by filing a “prisoner authorization,” which directs the facility where the prisoner is incarcerated to deduct the \$350.00 filing fee<sup>1</sup> from the prisoner’s prison trust fund account in installments and to send to this court certified copies of the prisoner’s prison trust fund account statements for the past six months. *See* § 1915(a)(2), (b).

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<sup>1</sup> The \$52.00 administrative fee for filing a federal civil action does not apply to persons granted IFP status under 28 U.S.C. § 1915.

Plaintiff submitted an IFP application with a prisoner authorization, but the prisoner authorization only allows the funds deducted from Plaintiff's prison trust fund account to be disbursed to the United States District Court for the District of New Jersey. Within thirty days of the date of this order, Plaintiff must either pay the \$402.00 in fees or complete, sign, and submit the attached prisoner authorization. If Plaintiff submits the prisoner authorization, it should be labeled with docket number 1:21-CV-4300 (LTS).<sup>2</sup>

The Clerk of Court is directed to mail a copy of this order to Plaintiff and note service on the docket. No summons shall issue at this time. If Plaintiff complies with this order, this action shall be processed in accordance with the procedures of the Clerk's Office. If Plaintiff fails to comply with this order within the time allowed, this action will be dismissed.

The Court certifies under 28 U.S.C. § 1915(a)(3) that any appeal from this order would not be taken in good faith, and therefore IFP status is denied for the purpose of an appeal. *Cf. Coppedge v. United States*, 369 U.S. 438, 444-45 (1962) (holding that appellant demonstrates good faith when seeking review of a nonfrivolous issue).

SO ORDERED.

Dated: May 24, 2021  
New York, New York

/s/ Laura Taylor Swain

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LAURA TAYLOR SWAIN  
Chief United States District Judge

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<sup>2</sup> Plaintiff is cautioned that if a prisoner files a federal civil action or appeal that is dismissed as malicious, frivolous, or for failure to state a claim on which relief may be granted, the dismissal is a "strike" under 28 U.S.C. § 1915(g). A prisoner who receives three "strikes" cannot file federal civil actions IFP as a prisoner, unless he is under imminent danger of serious physical injury, and must pay the relevant fees at the time of filing any new federal civil action.